



THE PALMYRA CIRCLE



No. 25, 1948

September 1948

A TRIP TO PALMYRA ISLAND.

From: "THE VOYAGE OF THE LUKA TO PALMYRA ISLAND" By JOSEPH L. ROCK, published in the ATLANTIC MONTHLY July 1929.

Palmyra, or Samarang, Island was discovered by Captain Leale of the American vessel Palmyra on November 7, 1802, and named after his vessel. The island group, which is really a coral atoll, consists of 52 islands. The largest covers 146 acres, while the smallest is 47 hundredths of an acre.

On October 19, 1899 Palmyra was attached to the United States. On April 15, 1862, it was annexed by the Hawaiian Government for King Kamehameha IV. In 1889 Commander Nichols, of the H.B.M.S. "Cormorant", claimed Palmyra for the Queen of Great Britain, Ireland, etc. And on December 16, 1898, it once more became United States territory, when the Hawaiian Islands were annexed.

Judge Henry R. Cooper, of Honolulu, with whom the author made the voyage to Palmyra in 1913, acquired the island in that year, sight unseen, from a woman in Australia. She had inherited it from her husband, a former resident of Hawaii. It was Judge Cooper's long-standing, romantic ambition to own a yacht and an island to which to sail it. To fulfill his plan he bought the 27 year old schooner "Luka". In it the party set sail for Palmyra. Of their arrival here the author writes, "There was some question as to where Palmyra lay. According to one map we should have been there; according to another we should have passed it; and according to the third we were still miles off." By watching the booby birds and following the direction of their flight they finally located the island.

Early in the morning, looking for an anchorage, we cruised about in pellucid water, which permitted us to see too plainly the many dangers which threatened our old schooner, and incidentally ourselves. Blocks of coral, multicolored and variously shaped, came dangerously close to the surface of the ocean, encircling the palm-fringed shore like a garden wreath.

Continued next week.

WEST COAST TIED UP BY WATERFRONT STRIKE

Waterfront employers refuse to bargain with Unions until Union Officials sign non-Communist affidavit. The Unions reply that they are ready to stay out for months.

This does not look too good for Hawaii and Palmyra, unless the strike is settled soon this Christmas may not be too bright in Honolulu. Most of the big stores have their Christmas stock in their warehouses. However the Unions may decide to load some food shipments to the Islands if the strike is a long one.

Buses

H.R.T. operators go out on strike and Honolulu is walking again. They have agreed to continue bargaining with the company while the strike is on.

Here is some NEWS if you haven't seen the dispatches in the Bulletin Board. All of the mail in the Honolulu Post Office up to and including the 6th, will be on the Navy plane leaving there the 9th, for Palmyra. Due to a misunderstanding at the Honolulu Post Office no mail was sent down the last two trips. If the plane does bring all the mail, there is going to be a lot of very happy people on Palmyra the night the plane arrives.

DRAFT NEWS and NOTES.

Registration for the Draft has started in Honolulu. If you are in the age group required to register, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to write to the United States Selective Service Office, Honolulu, T.H. for the forms to be filled out.

During the last war we were unable to get forms sent down here. The law allowed three days in which to register after being out of the Territory. The Draft age limits were raised and a lot of men who had not been required to register before leaving for Palmyra were subject to the Draft. Our boat docked on a Friday evening. The first thing the next morning we headed for the C.S. to get our ID cards then headed for the Draft Board to register.

We were registered, then, the police took us in custody and we were taken to the police department and booked for dodging the draft.

DON'T LET IT HAPPEN TO YOU.

LATTERIES

John H. Dillingham withdraws his name as a candidate for the house, as there are 14 other candidates from the Fourth District. Walther Dillingham has filed paper, a Republican candidate for Delegate to Congress running against Delegate Farrington.

Postmaster Line announces that mail will be carried between Island ports and the mainland on Army and Navy vessels during the marine strike.

tell us about this

West coast ports at a standstill, only tankers, grain ships, Army and Navy vessels are being allowed to move by the unions.

Efforts are still being made to lift the food blockade surrounding Berlin.

mallard and teal

The ducks have started their annual migration south. The first group arrived a little over a week ago so it will not be too long before a dry spell started. The ducks arrive generally each year preceeding a dry spell for the Island.

EDITOR THREATENED PAPER TO BE BOMBED IF the boys who were pulling weeds and filling the holes in the runway did not get proper publicity for their efforts. HUCK, those guys forget that the Editor was right out there with them doing his share of the pulling and filling. May be they were planning on using empty beer cans for bombs, they surely would not use full ones.

There have been quite a few sore backs and blistered hands from the recent rush work on the runway. The boys accused the Editor of going out nights and replanting the weeds so that he would have a better story to write on how much work was done.

Also Fuans boys are going to town on the apartments and it looks like there will be a big moving day coming up soon for some number of the old homesteaders in the near future.

Some of Morgan Holmes's crew are working up on Cooper Island in back of the Control Station and any night we won't be surprised to come home and find a bright red and silver polo up near Hangerville.

Charlie Costello wanted to know what minor or minor bird looked like, according to the dictionary, a minor is one who digs in the ground and a minor is one who is under age. My little Llynah bird is only about six months old as he was born in this paper and he has to do a lot of digging to get some of the tales he brings in. If he finds out that he is a Llynah he might get frightened and quit and start working for the Trade Winds.

Thanks to Mon Red we have a new Dictionary to use until our new one, with attached phone arrive from the states. And Boy? can she make lemon pie? Red if you are not going to eat your piece just pass it across the table.

Thanks to De. Shields, the Aeromears store has a small supply of long Air Mail envelopes. Bob Hall's commissary in the hotel has a stock of the regular size, but don't forget where to get the large ones if you need them.

MOVIES HERE

If some of you fellows think that we don't have to pay for the movies we have been having, bring some money with you and take a look at the bill we received for May and June.

PALESTRA P.O.A.

No news now, but we are hoping for some on Thursday plan. (Maybe)

Bachelors Club,
Fishing Hole
Mango Island

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The little Llynah bird has been taking a vacation on Kure Island for the past week and we have not had a chance to cover his bout.

A yellow jeep was parked out in front of number four in Hangerville the other night until it started to rain. When the Boss Man left he decided that the Editors sidewalk was too rough to take a chance on in the rain. He must have seen the crabs that moved into the front yard that night.

A green jeep made several stops at number two Hangerville the same night and the Editor had a visitor call on him next door. Millie had to bring a present to Uncle Otto and also show him her new permanent.

At the commissary the other night it turned out that Millie was not the only one who received a new permanent.

MEMORIES OF THE KAHAIKAS.

September 4, 1898. The first train was run by Oahu Railway.

September 2, 1942. Civil Courts authorized to resume most of their normal functions; privilege of writ of habeas corpus, however remains suspended.

September 2, 1898. Queen Liliuokalani was born. She died November 1917. Her reign only lasted from 1891 to 1893.

Monday is Labor Day and a holiday; heres hoping for good weather for two days